

10 June 1960

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant Director, Research and Reports

FROM: Chief, Geographic Research

SUBJECT: GRA Activity Report for the Month of May 1960

A. Major Research and Technical Support Activity

1. The Geography Division completed and disseminated one Geographic Intelligence Report (GR L-60-1, Cuba: Part XVIII); five Geographic Support Projects; and one Geographic Research Aid (GRA SC-60-1, Determining the Location of Certain Intelligence Installations in European Satellites). Three of the Support Projects were done at the request of the GM Task Force.

2. The Cartography Division accepted requests for 134 maps and charts and completed 182. Total number of jobs in process in the Division at the end of May were 429 versus 498 in April. The decrease in total number of jobs in process is attributable to the completion of the Telecom Atlas and to the cancellation of a number of jobs due to higher priority work or change of plans. The Telecom Atlas consisted of 52 telecommunications maps and was prepared for the [REDACTED] Telecom meeting to be held in June. Eleven maps were prepared on a high priority basis for DD/P.

3. The Map Library Division forwarded 27,648 items to requesters in response to 1,905 requests for maps, related geographic publications, and reference information. Requests serviced included one for a large number of maps for an office of the DD/P for transmittal to a new overseas post, and one for a large number of maps, covering all world areas, furnished to the White House. Also during the month, an agreement was reached to supply the Office of Naval Intelligence, over a period of several years, with quantities of port plans needed for a special project. Significant items obtained from foreign sources included the following: photocopies of 36 Russian sheets of the Antarctic; a detailed 1960 map of railroads of the Soviet Zone of Germany; a new edition of the Oxford Economic Atlas of the World; and 182 recent map sheets of Cuba. Four 1959 Hungarian city plans published by Kartografia Fallalat were received, bringing the total coverage of such 1958 and 1959 plans up to 24 cities.

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SUBJECT: GRA Activity Report for the Month of May 1960

4. Support activities conducted by the Special Collection Support Branch of D/GL included the following: the review of our requirements in Afghanistan with the DD/P Desk Officer; the collection of advance information on the four large conferences coming up this summer, including the preparation and dissemination of a briefing folder for Geographic Area IGU attendees; a contribution to the new IPC List on the Sino-Soviet Bloc; meetings with DD/P Desks to discuss requirements and support in connection with the preparation for travel to Europe by [REDACTED]; and the forwarding of 21 formal requirements.

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B. Planning and Development

1. The Geographic Intelligence Review has been eliminated as a publication series effective with the publication of GIR 60-1 in June. The principal considerations involved in this action were the following: the desire of the USIB Ad Hoc Committee on Foreign Intelligence Publications to reduce the number of publication series; the availability of other series to accommodate self-generated reports produced for the GIR; and the benefits in reduced processing overhead and increased production schedule flexibility that would be achieved. The GIR type of production will be continued as programmed work by each area branch, with retailoring and tighter intelligence focus of individual studies as necessary.

2. The USSR Town Plan Program is being revamped to fit a new and more realistic DD/P list of 12 cities for which detailed analysis is required. Consideration has now been given to the existence of actual operational capabilities; priority targets for which there are no operational capabilities have been deleted. The town plans for the 12 cities will be more comprehensive, and therefore more time-consuming, than the plans issued to date because information on target installations, landmarks, and tourist attractions will be required.

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3. Chief/G met with [REDACTED] OO/C, and the OO Training Officer to discuss GRA participation in a refresher conference being arranged for OO contract specialists during the month of June. There is a strong desire on their part to have representatives from each of the three divisions discuss the close relationships existing between GRA and the OO Field Offices through examples of direct utilization of their reporting. The refresher training sessions have been scheduled for 22 June, with five of our people participating.

4. The Arctic Area Discussion Group has scheduled an organization meeting for 8 June.

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SUBJECT: GRA Activity Report for the Month of May 1960

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25X1A5a1 progressed further during the month. It has been ascertained 25X1A5a1
25X1A5a1 is agreeable to receiving an external research proposal from 25X1A5a1

25X1A9a Guide lines will be firmed up for early submission 25X1A5a1 Meanwhile, 25X1A5a1
25X1A9a Graphics Register is processing 25X1A5a1 photography procured by 25X1A9a
25X1A9a and an inquiry is being made through OO to ascertain progress 25X1A9a
on the program for typing of 25X1A5a1

6. The Special Purpose Map Projection external research project with the American Geographical Society proposed by D/GC has been formally submitted through channels to the Project Review Committee; it was approved by the DD/I on 26 May.

7. In cooperation with OBI, a review of the NIS base map and Chapter I Summary map schedules for FY 1961, as proposed by OBI, was made. Concurrence on these schedules is anticipated in the immediate future.

8. The following is a resume of Geographic Attache activity during May. Dr. Niemela attended the AFNorth meeting in Oslo and conducted a brief procurement mission in Norway; plans were completed for Dr. Niemela's trip to Helsinki in July to conduct procurement and to attend the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics meetings. Dr. Chapman conducted a brief procurement mission in Assam. Dr. Held began a procurement mission to Dhahran and Kuwait. Dr. Bradley remained in Tokyo; he will undertake an eleven-week mission to Australia and New Zealand beginning 3 June. Mr. Rugg is on home leave; Messrs. Biggs and Rogers are hospitalized in the United States.

9. An exhaustive study of the D/GC clerical problem culminated in a memorandum to the AD/RR under date of 26 May, requesting review of clerical allocations in the Office with the objective of replacing D/GC attrition.

10. In cooperation with the Map Library Division, the Cartography Division is currently reviewing the 13000 to 14000 series of maps for destruction of filed material. This is in compliance with Office requirements, as this series has passed the five-year retention period; all map originals and negatives not basic to the needs of the Division will be destroyed.

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SUBJECT: GRA Activity Report for the Month of May 1960

C. Significant Outside Contacts and Activities

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2. On 12 May, Chief/G held a conference with Mr. Ecker, Bureau of the Budget, who was interested in examining details of our organization and work program.

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[REDACTED]

4. A meeting of the Chapter IX Subcommittee was held on 19 May 1960 to continue discussion of a new Chapter IX format. Agreement was reached on a proposal for general reorganization of the Chapter IX, as well as on the elimination of certain types of content. The Coordinator will incorporate all Subcommittee agreements in a memorandum of recommendation which will be circulated to the Subcommittee members for review and comment prior to its submission to the NIS Committee.

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25X1A9a 5. [REDACTED] GG/S, gave a briefing on the Soviet Railroad network to members of the U.S. Railroad Delegation who will visit the USSR shortly. He later received a commendation from the head of the delegation on his briefing. [REDACTED], GG/S, briefed [REDACTED], I/PE, interpreter 25X1A9a for the delegation, on geographic intelligence gaps.

25X1A9a 6. As a result of AD/NE's memorandum to Ch/G on "The Kurds in 1959", [REDACTED] GG/N, has discussed the Kurd paper with additional DD/P personnel, who could see nothing out of line in the statements regarding possible unrest. A discussion of the subject with Department of State personnel, without reference to the Kurd paper, brought similar reactions.

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25X1A9a 7. [REDACTED] GG/F, conferred with [REDACTED] of ONE on the status of the Sinkiang-Mongolian border. The conference will be followed up by GG/F preparation of a brief report on the topic.

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SUBJECT: GRA Activity Report for the Month of May 1960

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8. [REDACTED] GG/N, presented two lectures during the month. The first was on ORR Research Capabilities and Resources for the DD/P CLW course, for which excellent cooperation was provided by ERA. The second lecture was on his recent trip to Africa for the Africa Roundtable. (Air Force and NSA were represented at the Roundtable for the first time at this meeting.)

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9. [REDACTED] GG/N, attended the 14th Annual Meeting of the Middle East Institute on 6 May 1960.

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10. [REDACTED] reported that his negotiations in Egypt were brought to an abrupt halt as a result of the boycott incident in New York.

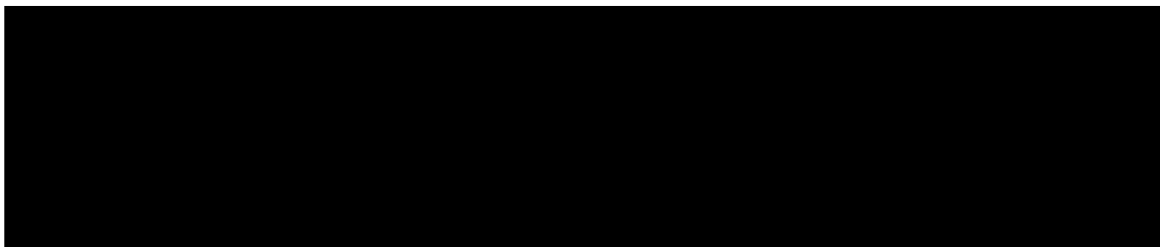
25X1A9a 11. At a meeting called by the National Science Foundation, discussions were held regarding means of dissemination of information on publications and maps dealing with Antarctica received in the United States. [REDACTED] was named to a committee appointed to draft a reporting program.

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12. [REDACTED] Special Collection Support Branch, D/GL, visited Mr. Cude, Engineer Research and Development Laboratory, Fort Belvoir, in connection with the photogrammetry meeting in London. Mr. Cude, who plays a key role in this organization, has offered to help in every way possible.

D. Miscellaneous

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25X1A9a 2. [REDACTED] GG/X, has completed preparations to deliver a briefing to CINCPAC and Staff on Soviet activities in Antarctica in Colorado Springs on 6 June; this briefing was formerly scheduled for 10 May.

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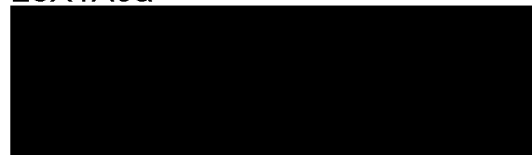
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3. [REDACTED] GG/N, completed processing for overseas travel and will leave as scheduled on 1 June.

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4. [REDACTED], Chief of the Special Support Branch, Cartography Division, resigned as of 27 May. [REDACTED], Deputy Chief, has been designated Acting Branch Chief. 25X1A9a

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ORR:Ch/G:JAB:RAN:jmc/4797 (10 June 1960)

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